



# NEWS RELEASE

**STATE BOARD  
OF EQUALIZATION**

450 N Street  
Sacramento  
California 95814

**BILL LEONARD**  
Member, BOE  
Second District

**RAMON J. HIRSIG**  
Executive Director

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**LEONARD ANNOUNCES VALUES SET FOR PRIVATELY-HELD  
PUBLIC UTILITIES IN CALIFORNIA**

Bill Leonard, Member of the California State Board of Equalization (BOE), today announced the BOE has established the unitary values of privately owned public utility companies in California at \$67.56 billion. In fiscal year 2006-2007, local governments will collect an estimated \$738 million in revenue (including penalties) based on these values.

Values were set for 423 companies with property in California. Utility companies assessed by the BOE include railroad, telephone (long distance, local, and wireless), gas and electric companies, and inter-county pipelines. Penalties are assessed for late or incomplete filings, or failure to file with the BOE.

A unitary value includes improvements, personal property, and land. A unitary valuation applies to properties owned or used by utility companies and considered necessary to their operation.

The BOE determines the fair market value of these properties on a lien date of January 1, by taking into consideration current market conditions, use of the property, income generated by the property, replacement costs, investments in the property, regulatory climate, depreciation and other factors. State-assessed properties, unlike those that are locally assessed, are not subject to the limitations of Proposition 13 and are reappraised at their market value annually by the BOE.

The values set by the BOE are used by county governments to levy local property taxes, which help support county governments, cities, special districts and schools.

Bill Leonard, of Sacramento/Ontario, was elected to his first term as Second District Member of the State Board of Equalization in 2002. Prior to his election, he served in the State Assembly (1978-1988, 1996-2002) and in the State Senate (1988-1996).

The five-member Board of Equalization is a publicly elected tax board. The Board collects almost \$50 billion annually in taxes and fees supporting state and local government services. It hears business tax appeals, acts as the appellate body for franchise and personal income tax appeals, and plays a significant role in the assessment and administration of property taxes.

Other Board Members include Betty T. Yee of San Francisco, Acting Member, First District; Claude Parrish of Long Beach, Third District; Chairman John Chiang of Los Angeles, Fourth District and State Controller Steve Westly.

*[Click Here to View 2006 Board-Adopted Unitary Values](#)*

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